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Trout Fishing Returns to Lakefront Parks

It's time for fishing enthusiasts to get ready to head over to Lake Accotink Park and Lake Fairfax Park for some fun and excitement along the creek banks. The Fairfax County Park Authority kicks off its spring trout fishing program in February. The first stocking of 1,000 pounds of prized rainbow trout takes place at Lake Accotink Park on Friday, February 10, 2006, followed one week later by a stocking at Lake Fairfax. Weekly stocking will alternate between the two locations throughout the season. Trout fishing at Lake Accotink Park begins Friday, February 10th. Fishing at Lake Fairfax begins Saturday, February 18th.

The season runs at both parks until April 23rd, 7 a.m. until dusk. Adult season passes are available for \$35. Reduced fees for season passes are \$30 for children ages 6 to 15 and residents 60 years of age and older. A daily pass can be purchased for \$10 per person (\$9 for children ages 6 to 15 and for residents over 60 years of age). Passes may be purchased at either park and used at either park. Pass sales begin in mid-January .

This unique recreational program is supported entirely through fees paid by trout fishing pass holders. Under this program, all Virginia State game laws apply, including a six fish daily limit and the requirement for those over 16 years of age to carry a current Virginia State fishing license. In addition, all persons fishing in the parks' stocked waters must comply with the rules of the trout fishing program. This includes the requirement to purchase a park fishing pass prior to fishing, a one pole per person rule, and other rules stated on the pass. A Virginia trout stamp is not required.

To get to Lake Accotink Park take Beltway exit 54B, Braddock Road east, to a right on Backlick Road to a right on Highland Avenue to a right on Accotink Park Road to the park entrance on the left. For more information call Lake Accotink at 703-569-0285, TTY 703-569-5200.

To get to Lake Fairfax take Beltway exit 47A west, left on Baron Cameron, left on Lake Fairfax Drive to the park entrance. Call 703-471-5414 for more information.

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